



News Release

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Immunization Survey Shows Washington's Kids are Better Protected

OLYMPIA — Immunization rates of toddlers in Washington are increasing, and meeting state and national public health goals.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, this year's annual [National Immunization Survey](#) shows Washington is better than the national average for most childhood vaccines.

The state recorded increased rates over last year for nine out of 10 vaccines and met national targets for several of those. In addition, the state surpassed its own goal of 72.6 percent completing the full childhood series of vaccines; our rate this year was just over 77 percent. For more information and specific immunization numbers, see [CDC's full survey release](#).

"We're very pleased with this year's results because it shows that most parents are getting their children immunized, but there is more work to do. Any drop in immunization coverage will increase our community's risk," said State Health Officer Dr. Kathy Lofy.

Also encouraging is this year's MMR vaccination rate for Washington, 95 percent, which is the highest it's ever been in this survey and above the level needed for community protection against measles. MMR protects against measles, mumps, and rubella viruses.

The [Childhood Vaccine Program](#) provides vaccines at no cost to kids younger than 19, though health care providers may charge an office visit or administration fee.

For help finding a health care provider or an immunization clinic, contact your [local health agency](#) or the [WithinReach](#) Family Health Hotline at 1-800-322-2588.

The [Department of Health website](#) (www.doh.wa.gov) is your source for *a healthy dose of information*. Also, [find us on Facebook](#) and [follow us on Twitter](#).

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